

Kindschi: I did not set up firm

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for \$230,000, Kindschi said.

How could many other people have gotten the impression that the CIA was deeply involved with Bishop Baldwin and Kindschi not have gotten wind of such claims?

"Incredible," Kindschi concedes. But he says he wasn't around, went to the office only 25 times in three years and knew few of the other consultants and investors.

Kindschi says Rewald didn't tell him that Bishop Baldwin was doing any CIA business. "He never asked me about my business and I never asked him about his business," Kindschi says if he had heard of CIA stories getting around, true or false, he would have alerted the agency himself.

Kindschi says at one point he jumped to the conclusion that Rewald was collecting intelligence for Gen. Arnold Braswell, then commander in chief of Pacific Air Forces. Braswell, who had considered working for Rewald after his retirement, now says he lost more than \$100,000 to the firm.

"I said, 'Don't get yourself in bed with the military or the government, because you've got a responsibility to the investors,'" Kindschi said.

But didn't Jack Kindschi have some impression of what Rewald's actual relationship with the CIA — whatever it might have been — was, even after he retired?

"Well, yeah," Kindschi responds, "I may have had an impression," but he indicates it was nothing like the scenario which has been laid out by Rewald and his friends — stories of arms deals, stolen plans, disinformation campaigns and "shadow houses."

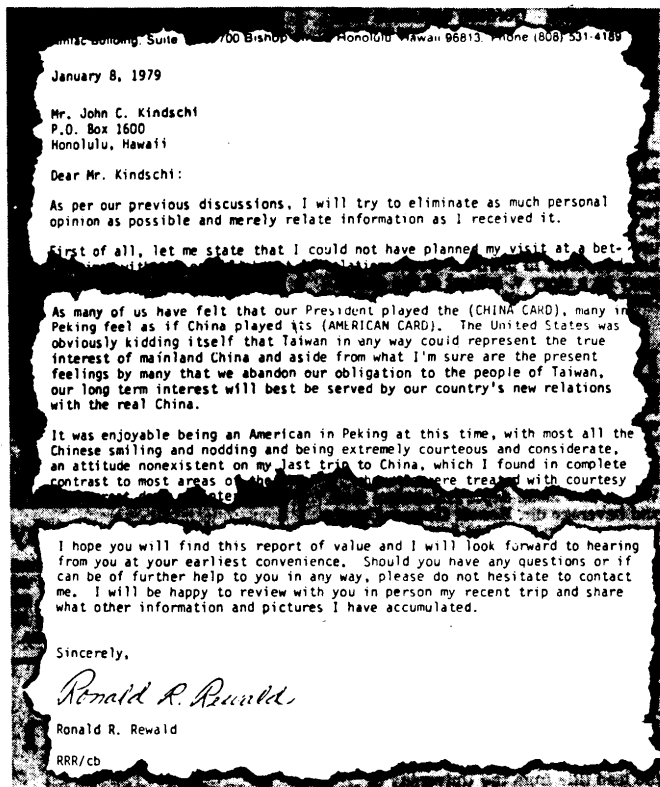
"You know," says Kindschi, "I've never even heard of a 'shadow house' or a 'real house,' although I've been in this business for years." Those terms were used by KITV reporter Larry Price, who Kindschi says has been duped by Rewald.

Kindschi was particularly upset when Price reported that Kindschi had said he would lie under oath if a truthful answer would reveal Rewald was a covert agent. (Price says he won't accept anything Rewald says at face value, but puts faith in "court documents" shown him by Rewald attorney Robert Smith, specifically a transcript of Smith quoting Kindschi from memory several months earlier.)

Kindschi says he may not answer questions about the CIA, but will not lie.

The Advertiser showed Kindschi a copy of a nine-page letter addressed to Kindschi by Rewald on Jan. 8, 1979, regarding Rewald's recent trip to China. Kindschi glanced at the letter and muttered that such material "would have gone into the round file" at the CIA office.

The rambling letter talks about a factory



Excerpts from the letter dated Jan. 8, 1979, from Rewald to then-CIA Honolulu-station chief Kindschi about Rewald's trip to China.

tour, conversations with students, the weather, politics, tourism, business deals, inflation, Taiwan relations and military pacts. It is the kind of thing the CIA sucks up from travelers routinely — some of it volunteered, some of it requested.

Kindschi says he has yet to see a classified document revealed in the Rewald affair, and has seen some faked ones shown on television.

After the company collapsed, Kindschi said, he concluded Rewald had given others an inflated view of his CIA connections.

"When Ron attempted suicide, Robert Jinks called me and asked if I could come to the Hilton Lagoon where Ron had an apartment. Jinks and another consultant from (the firm's office in) Napa were there. He was wringing his hands, and said he wanted to know whether or not he was a CIA agent."

"Why?" I asked. And he said, 'Ron had us sign a secrecy agreement.'

"I said, 'Gentlemen, I can tell you right now, you are not working for the CIA because Ronald Rewald had no authority to sign anyone. He was not an intelligence

officer."

Jinks has since sued the CIA for millions, claiming he is an agent and that the CIA misled him or allowed Rewald to do so.

Says Kindschi: "Ask Rewald how he could be a covert agent when he tells everyone he is a covert agent. It just doesn't make sense."

The question was put to Rewald. "Who did I tell?" Rewald demanded.

A letter on Bishop Baldwin stationery, dated Dec. 12, 1980, addressed to Jinks, says, in part:

"I had dinner last night with the new director of the CIA and he has several exciting new projects for us after the first of the year. I am certain that if you want, you can get involved in at least one or two of these projects. However, they would require some travel on your part and a good deal of time in briefings first. Maybe you and I can discuss this next time I'm through California, which should be the latter part of January."

The letter is signed: "In the Lord's care, Ron."

Tomorrow: Rewald, a personal view.